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RE: KARI LESSELYOUNG, RN

Licensee.

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2. The Board has jurisdiction over the Licensee and the subject matter of this Order.

3. The Board accepts the facts presented at the meeting on February 9, 2022, and specifically finds, pursuant to SDCL 1-26-29, that the actions of the Licensee as presented endanger the public health, safety and welfare, and imperatively require emergency action in that Licensee may endanger the health and safety of those persons who are or will be entrusted to her care in the future and that these are matters of a nature that would constitute further grounds for discipline under SDCL § 36-9-49.

4. Based upon these findings, Licensee's license to practice as a registered nurse in South Dakota is hereby summarily suspended. Licensee shall turn in her license to the Board within ten (10) days from the date of this Order and it shall be kept by the Board until further action on this matter.


5. Licensee is hereby notified that any practice of or holding herself out as a registered nurse during the terms of this Order of Summary Suspension is a violation of SDCL § 36-9-68(5).

6. This action is reportable discipline and will be published in the Board's newsletter and posted on its website and reported into the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) as required by law.

7. This summary suspension continues pending proceedings for revocation or other action. Contested case proceedings under SDCL 1-26 shall be promptly instituted so that the Board may enter a final determination regarding disciplinary or corrective action after a formal contested case hearing.

Dated this 9th day of February, 2022.

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING


Linda Young, RN, MS, FRE
Executive Director

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**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING
MOTION FOR
SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

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3. Kari Lesselyoung, RN ("Licensee") is licensed to practice as a registered nurse in the State of South Dakota and holds license number R048379. Licensee holds a multi-state license, with her primary licensing state being South Dakota. Her license is currently active and would allow her to perform nursing care in South Dakota and any state that is a member of the Nurse Licensing Compact.

4. In my position as Nurse Program Specialist for the Board, I am responsible under SDCL § 36-1C et. seq. for receiving, reviewing and investigating all complaints submitted to the Board.

5. I received a complaint regarding Licensee from the Department of Veteran Affairs, Black Hills HCS Community Living Center, where the Licensee had been employed.

6. The complainant alleged that Licensee had been employed at the Community Living Center from January 19, 2021, until she was detailed on September 28, 2021, due to patient safety concerns related to suspected impairment. Her performance had been marked at that time by inconsistent behavior, inability to function during her employment, practice deficiencies, absenteeism, and difficulty arriving to her shift on time.

7. The detailed facts of Licensee's misconduct during her employment is contained in the Proficiency Report, which was presented with the complaint and is attached as **Exhibit A**.

8. The complaint also included an incident report from a joint law enforcement investigation with the Sturgis Police Department and VA police. The report states that Licensee was stopped by the Sturgis police on September 28, 2021, smelled of marijuana, and admitted to smoking marijuana prior to driving to work, and Licensee also possessed a bottle of synthetic urine, which she intended to use to pass a UA as needed.

9. I called Licensee upon receipt of the complaint to investigate the complaint and discuss options for participating in the South Dakota Health Professionals Assistance Program (HPAP). I provided Licensee the HPAP contact and program information.

10. I later followed-up that Licensee had contacted HPAP but then did not follow through with the application process. I then attempted to contact Licensee via the same phone number I contacted initially. Licensee is no longer responding to my calls.

11. Based on the facts alleged in the complaint and Licensee's failure to voluntarily initiate HPAP or otherwise respond to my investigation of the complaint, I believe the public health, safety, and welfare imperatively require emergency action in that Licensee's actions may endanger the health and safety of persons entrusted to Licensee's care and that Licensee's license should be summarily suspended until further Order of the Board.

Dated this 2nd day of February, 2022.

Francie Miller, RN
Francie Miller,
Nurse Program Specialist

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 2 day of February, 2022.

Erin M. Mattin
Notary Public - South Dakota
My commission expires: 01/08/2026